Losses to Cooperative Banks in Gujarat

3145. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several cooperative banks in Gujarat particularly in the tribal areas, are running at loss;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of losses suffered by each of those banks during each of the last three years and in 1996 till date alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the administrative expenditure incurred by these banks during the above period; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to check these losses?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and, the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Shortage of Staff in Banks in U.P.

3146. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of staff in the various branches of nationalised banks located in Uttar Pradesh, especially in Khurja region causing a great inconvenience to the customers;

(b) if so, the details of such banks branches where the strength of employees is not adequate;

(c) the date from which these posts are lying vacant; and

(d) the remedial action being taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Value of Smuggled Goods Seized

3147. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE b pleased to state :

(a) the value of the smuggled goods seized at Mumbai and Delhi airports during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether action has been taken by the Government against the guilty employees of Air India and Indian Airlines involved in these cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Voters Identity Cards

3148. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN PAPPU YADAV :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that voter Identity Cards meant for the Election purpose are also being used for outher purposes; and

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments through Election Commission that they should issue Identity Cards to voters before March 31, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Financing of Self Employment Scheme

3149. SHRI RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the performance of the public sector banks in the matter of financing the self employment schemes during the last three financial years and the first six months of the current financial year;

(b) whether those banks achieved the targets in this regard during the above period; and

(c) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to channelise finance for self employment of rural and urban poors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The performance of the public sector banks in the matter of financing under major self-employment schemes i.e. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the last three financial years and during the current financial year (latest available) are set upto in the statement enclosed.

(c) The steps taken for increasing credit flow under self-employment schemes, inter-alia, include the following:

(i) Instructions have been issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks to ensure that applications recommended by sponsoring authorities like District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), district Industries Centre (DIC) and District Urban Development Agency (DUDA)/Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are disposed of expeditiously and also that banks alongwith the sponsoring agencies should